

Elk Point REVIEW

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Tuesday, December 29, 2009

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PM40069240 R10645

Winning
A losing battle

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Metelytsia
To perform in Jasper

Page 6

County FCSS
brings gifts

...Page 3



Baptists trim Christian tree

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

The Elk Point Baptist Church congregation and guests were taken on "a Christmas journey along old, old trails that lead to Bethlehem" on Sunday, Dec. 20 with a Sunday School concert that centered on a huge evergreen that took centre stage.

"This is a Christian Christmas tree," the audience was told, its green needles in the depth of winter representing everlasting life, its triangular shape representing the Holy Trinity and its lights representing Jesus, the Light of the world. Red ornaments, added later, would represent the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

The church janitor shuffled across the stage, unimpressed by the tree, which he felt would surely shed needles to annoy him, and when the church's children arrived, he planned to remind them not to get papers on the floor.

Six moms with babies came on stage, declaring there was no better news to announce to the world than that of the birth of Jesus. They hung bells on the tree and sang, "Come on, Ring Those Bells."

A group of little tots was next, bringing gingerbread men. "We made them as God made Jesus. It reminds us that God loves us." Their song was the classic favourite, "Away in a Manger."

The next group of youngsters brought presents to put on the tree, and reminded the audience that the Wise Men brought presents to the Baby Jesus. "Christmas is about presents, and the best Christmas gift is Jesus." All joined in singing, "Joy to the World."

The janitor was back again, grumbling about "little church mice that came by while I was cleaning the kitchen," and ruminating on peace on Earth. He feels forgotten, and can't remember when he last got a present. "It must have been one from my Grandpa."

Angels bearing stars and shepherds were the tree's next visitors, bringing candy canes and angel ornaments. "Candy canes remind us of shepherds' crooks. Jesus is our rock, like hard candy." The angels told the story of their long-ago counterparts, who appeared to the shepherds, and sang "Angels We Have Heard on High."

(Continued on Page 6)



Vicki Brooker photo

And angels appeared to the shepherds...

Elk Point Baptist Church Sunday school students tell the story of the angels' appearance to shepherds tending their flocks on the hills outside Bethlehem on that long-ago, holiest of nights, as they performed their part of the Dec. 20 Christmas concert.

FGM hosts annual brunch

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

A 33-year-long tradition continued at F. G. Miller High School on Dec. 18, when students, staff and guests gathered for the annual Christmas Brunch. Vice-principal Cheri Lindquist said the first brunch was held in 1977, spearheaded by principal Phil Matveyenko, and though the format has changed over the years, "the message stays the same."

Originally, teachers and school staff did all the cooking and serving, but now they restrict their efforts to cooking the turkeys, and the Grade 12 students do the balance of the preparation and serving, Lindquist noted.

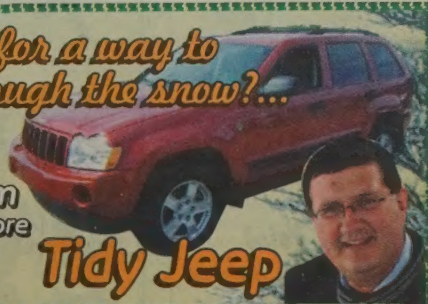
(Continued on Page 2)



F. G. Miller's Grade 12 students lined up to serve smiles along with the traditional brunch on Friday, Dec. 18.

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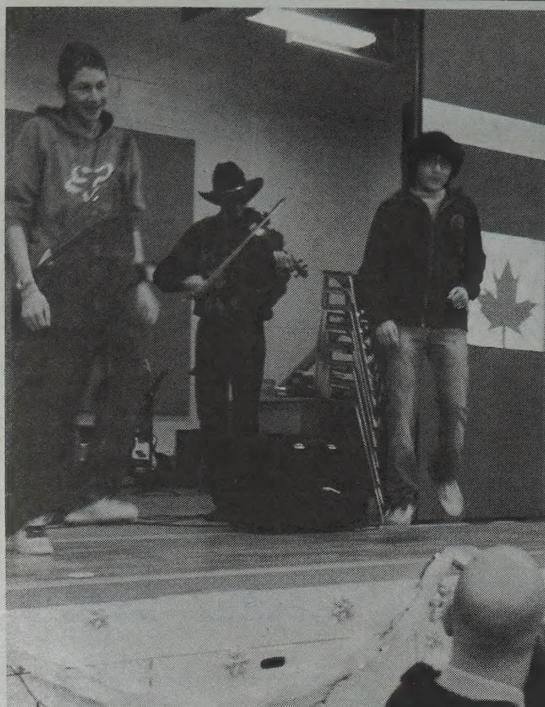
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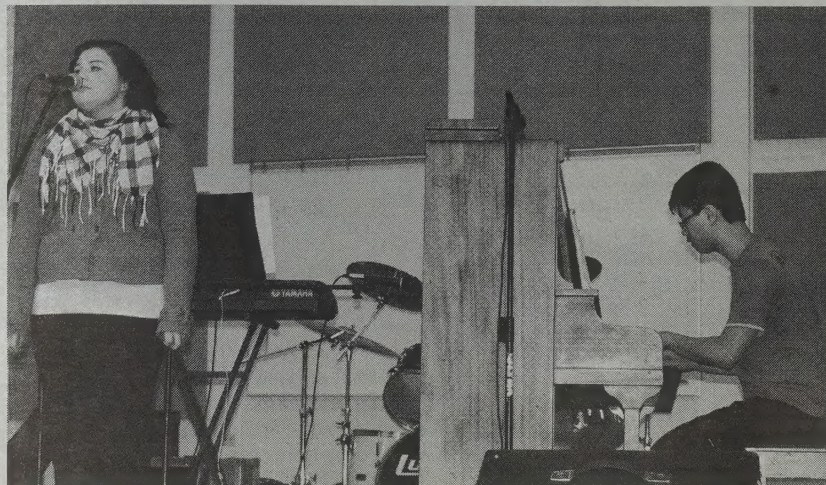


Music, 'mountain' and more

Talented young fiddler Cory Poirtras of St. Paul plays a rousing Red River Jig in accompaniment to the flying feet of Blake Desjarlais and Kyle Tingey.

The Loughran family visits with Santa next to the mountain of stuffed animals collected during the TK's Toys for Tots campaign for donation to the St. Paul and Area Victim Services.

Pianist Thomas Lee accompanies Ariel Kwasnycia's soaring vocal solo.



FGM hosts 33rd annual Christmas brunch

(Continued from Front Page)

Guests include retired teachers, school bus drivers, volunteers and community members.

The school has both new teachers and new programs this year, allowing students to explore such options as yoga, wrestling and digital printing, Lindquist said. She praised the cross-country athletes who went on to provincials this fall, and the senior boys basketball team, who were fresh from an 86-77 victory over their top-ranked Ashmont counterparts.

Principal Colin Bjorkman thanked Lindquist and the other organizers, as well as the Grade 12s, "who are servers today and were potato peelers yesterday. We have the most wonderful students in the division."

Librarian Denise Bjorkman called upon Guy Genereux of St. Paul and Area Victim Services to accept a huge mountain of stuffed toys donated by students, staff and the community to TK's Toys for Tots program.

"You're really donating these toys to a child, a youth, or perhaps an adult who has suffered a loss or who is a victim of crime," Genereux said as he thanked the donors. "I was called to a youth centre

where a traumatic event had occurred, and I told them I could bring in (stuffed animals) for them. They were so grateful, I wish you could have seen them."

"Take good care of each other over the holidays," RCMP Cst. John Spaans said, as he brought greetings from the detachment.

Myrna Fox, whose brother Barrie McFadyen is remembered with scholarships offered to F. G. Miller students, told the students how the Barrie Wayne McFadyen Trade Scholarship came to be, with the school division contributing \$5,000 to the fund. Two students tied for the \$5000 annual scholarship available to students with a 70 per cent or better average who are entering a trades training program. "This scholarship will be of special interest to those in the RAP Program," she noted, offering thanks to the school division "for making this happen. It's a wonderful way to help students reach their goals, and a wonderful tribute to our Barrie."

SPERD secretary-treasurer Jean Champagne brought greetings from central office and said the brunch was "a good chance to get out and see the wonderful things that are happening" at the school.

"It's not only a school that makes a community, it's a community that makes a school," said school board chair Darrell Younghans, who noted that Champagne

and fellow brunch guest Colette Labrie "play no small part in keeping the number of teachers in front of the students." To the Grade 12s, he noted, "your days in school are winding down. Use them to make fond memories."

Bernadette Godolin of the Elks Lodge offered grace before everyone lined up to enjoy turkey and all the trimmings, followed by a variety of festive treats created by the home ec students. The gym had been decorated for the occasion by Mrs. Bintz's art students with some of their outstanding work.

Talented pianist Thomas Lee provided dinner music, and later accompanied vocalist Ariel Kwasnycia, who had opened the event with O Canada, as she sang, "I Believe I Can Fly."

Special entertainment came from St. Paul's Poirtras family, Ed, Shelley, Kelsey and Cory, who have a family band known as 24/7. The versatile quartet provided music, song and Red River jigging by Kelsey and Cory, who proved he could fiddle and jig at the same time, and also provided accompaniment for FGM students Blake Desjarlais and Kyle Tingey as they demonstrated their jigging prowess.

A sad note to the occasion was the news that advisor Ruby Boratynec would be taking a year's leave of absence, and would not be returning to the school until January of 2011.

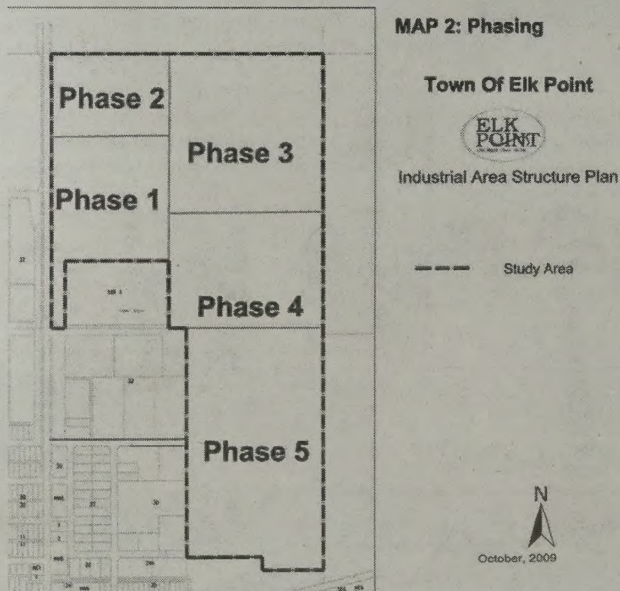


TOWN OF ELK POINT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Re: Bylaw No. 675/09

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, as amended, the Council of the Town of Elk Point proposes to adopt Bylaw No. 675/09 for the Town to enact:

- INDUSTRIAL AREA STRUCTURE PLAN



Please TAKE NOTICE that on January 11, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Elk Point Council Chambers located at 4910-50 Avenue, a Public Hearing will be held to hear from anyone who feels they may be affected by the proposed amendment.

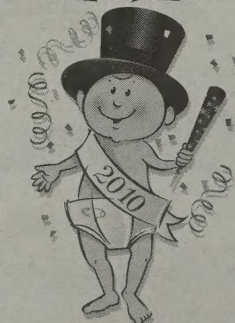
Anyone wishing to be heard either directly or on someone else's behalf may make oral representation at the Public Hearing. Written submissions are acceptable and must be delivered prior to the Public Hearing to the Administration Office address indicated above.

At the Public Hearing the Mayor shall direct to hear representation first from the applicant, then from those property owners who claim to be directly affected by the proposed disposal, followed by any other person who wishes to make representation.

Myron Goyan, Manager
Town of Elk Point
Box 448, Elk Point, AB.
T0A 1A0

Dated at Elk Point, AB., this 18th day of December, 2009.

ANNOUNCING OUR BEST WISHES!



From our "family" to yours, go our very best wishes for a new year filled with health, happiness and prosperity!

**Elk Point
Elementary School**
Staff and Students



May 2010 be
filled with
health,
happiness &
prosperity!

Hope your New Year's
celebration is a blast!

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Participants, charity win big in losing game



Vicki Brooker photo

Their loss is Santas' gain

Participants in Elk Point's Biggest Loser contest donated a pound of non-perishable food to Elk Point Santas Anonymous for each pound of weight they lost, bringing their contributions to the windup where they toasted their success.

BY VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Forty participants, 16 weeks and over 360 lbs. shed – that's the success story surrounding Elk Point's first Biggest Loser program.

Desiree Maas came up with the concept this past summer and thought she might get a dozen friends and relatives on board. The idea proved so popular that the group ended up more than three times that size, and entry fees, weekly weigh-in dues and fines for missing a weigh-in or the occasional gain piled up while the pounds melted off.

Participants were encouraged along the way with a prize for the biggest loss for each four-week period, with Tracy Vogel claiming the win for the fourth quarter.

The final weigh-in came last Wednesday, when Maas calculated the percentage of original weight that each participant had lost, and

announced the winners. Gifts of candles, scrapbooking supplies, clothing and gift certificates went to five runners-up: Donna Gulayec with a 9.11 per cent loss, Carolyn Onusko with 11.18 per cent, Kathy Lovell with 12.62 per cent, Diane Dewan with 17.1 per cent, and Tracy Vogel with 17.78 per cent. The biggest loser, and winner of \$1,500 cash, was Jackie Ludlage with a loss of 18.95 per cent.

While the others didn't take home a prize, the group agreed that, "We're all win-

ners," because of the program.

Less fortunate families in the area are also winners because of the program, because each participant came to the windup gathering with non-perishable food items equal in weight to their loss – a total of over 360 pounds of food to be donated to the Community Lions' Santas Anonymous.

The enthusiastic response to the program has Maas busy making plans for another round of The Biggest Loser in early 2010.



Contest organizer Desiree Maas (left) congratulates (left to right) first runner-up Tracy Vogel, second runner-up Diane Dewan and winner Jackie Ludlage.



Vicki Brooker photos

County FCSS presents cribbage boards

Elk Point Heritage Lodge manager Loris Kozina and residents Elna Nissan, Stefka Trefanenko, Hazel Hannah, Mildred Boyko, Gilbert Classen and Winnie Shepherd, along with Buckingham House residents Lois Yaremkevich and Donna Kondro and Fort George Manor residents Helen Gulayec and Olga Lawrence, welcomed County of St. Paul Reeve Robert Bouchard and County FCSS Director Tammy Elkow when they came to Elk Point just before Christmas to present a beautiful, handcrafted cribbage board table to each of the three seniors' residences. The boards were built by George St. Arnault, and were made possible by a grant from the New Horizons Program. Similar boards were also presented to Heritage Homes Phases 1 and 2 in St. Paul and to Ashmont's Aspen Grove seniors' residence. A board of this type "was very popular at Sunnyside Manor," Elkow said, "and we felt the other lodges ought to have them too."

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Amidst all the preparations and festivities, we'd like to take a moment to let you know just how very much we value your friendship and appreciate your support, and wish you a very happy and prosperous 2010.

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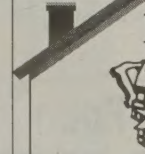
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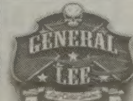
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EDITORIAL

Resolutions or goals?

It's that time of year when many of us succumb to the tradition of making New Year's resolutions. We resolve to lose weight, quit smoking, stop using our credit cards and to start exercising every day, keep our houses company-ready at all times, and to learn everything there is to know about our new cameras or computer programs.

Often, we are setting ourselves up for defeat. As soon as a yummy dessert comes along, away goes the diet. A bad day at work sends us to smother our frustrations in a cloud of smoke. Running short of cash before payday has us using our cards to put gas in the car, and since we're using it anyway, why not just check out those after-Christmas sales? There's the day you're just too dog-tired to exercise and the day you realize that you've left a coffee cup on the table all day, just as the doorbell rings. There's also the day you realize that it could take several lifetimes to figure out all the technology, and that your electronics will be obsolete before then.

Goals are easier.

Goals are positive. They are something to work towards, not to feel like a failure over if you don't achieve them.

Goals are constructive. They give you hope that you may actually achieve them, and if you break them down into steps, you'll see progress along the way.

Goals can take you farther. When you achieve a goal, you may say to yourself, "if I can do this, maybe I can do ...". (Of course, if it's home improvements you're thinking about, that would be a good time to go and lie down until reality sets in).

Why not give goal-setting a try, and make your first goal a healthy and Happy New Year.

WAY BACK WHEN...

Bright lights, legendary link-up

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND THE ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 29 IN...

1984

The Review did not publish that week.

1989

The Review did not publish that week.

1994

Who needed Candy Cane Lane? Elk Point was bright and beautiful for Christmas, with Walter and Marie Lesyk, Rick and Brenda Patroch and Jody and Dennis Boyko winning the awards in the residential category. A tree-mendous tree, a napping Santa, reindeer surgery and songs of joy were all part of the two concerts at Elk Point Elementary School.

1999

Elk Point again lit up for Christmas, with Santa's sleigh parked on Wayne and Brenda Mudryk's roof, his reindeer's horns clearly visible above the roofline, taking first place, second going to Amelia and Jim Bowen and third to Marie and Walter Lesyk. "The Best Gift Ever" and "Slap Shot Santa" entertained appreciative audiences at Elk Point Elementary.

2004

It was official – the Iron Horse Trail bridged the gap in the northern Trans Canada Trail, and signs went up to designate it as part of the nationwide network. The County of St. Paul gave a number of organizations within their boundaries a helping hand with insurance bills for their facilities.



GUEST COLUMN

I heard the bells

With New Years Eve only a couple of days away, may the bells that ring in the new year help to ring in a good year for all of us in 2010. Happy New Year everyone!

It was only a few days ago that the Christmas bells pealed their traditional carols. One of these carols was called: "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day". Unfortunately, there is a moment of despair which overcomes one who hears the words to this song. With such hate and conflict in the world, how can the listener trust the message of "Peace on earth, good will to men"? But the song of hope and promise swells even louder: "the wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men."

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's Longfellow's original poem, published in 1867, was seven stanzas long. The Christmas carol version omits the original verses four and five, which show his grief and frustration over the American Civil war. These omitted verses describe how the awful sounds of war overpower the song of the Christmas bells.

The carol ends with two positive verses so that we are left with a feel of faith and optimism. I will quote all seven verses:

*I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play.
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

I thought how, as the day had come,

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

*The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along, th' unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

*And in despair I bowed my head:
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
For hate is strong and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men*

*Then from each black, accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
And with the sound The carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

*It was as if an earthquake rent
The hearthstones of a continent,
And made forlorn The households born
Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men."*

*Till, ringing, singing, on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

It is easy to understand why verses four and five are not usually quoted with this song. Basically what Henry Wadsworth Longfellow is saying, is that when war is occurring we can't hear any bells ringing peace on earth, good will to men. Oh – if only men didn't have to experience war!

So to all our service men and women, our hearts go out to you as we end 2009 and begin 2010, we wish you all the best and want you to know we are thinking of you.

Likewise, to all the families of these service men and women, may you too feel the love and peace of this Christmas message and may 2010 bring you all the best.

deanna
EASTHOPE
from the FCSS desk



ELK POINT REVIEW

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Vicki Brooker
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Melanie McRae
SALES
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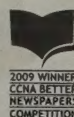
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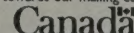
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St. Paul Journal Salutes the BEAUTIFUL BABIES of the Year 2009

*Congratulations to all the parents and families
of these beautiful additions to their families!*



**Ava Marissa
Hillebrand**
Date of Birth:
January 28, 2009
Weight: 7 lbs. 11 oz. Height: 20 3/4"
Daughter of
David & Kendra
Hillebrand



**Lynden Alexander
Berg**
Date of Birth:
March 29, 2009
Weight: 6 lbs. 6 oz. Height: 47 cm
Son of
Dean Arthur
& Melanie Berg



**Rhyley Shawn
Kozicky**
Date of Birth:
August 27, 2009
Son of
Jesse Kozicky &
April Savadra



**Tyler Eugene Henry
Waskahat**
Date of Birth:
April 3, 2009
Weight: 7 lbs. 11 1/2 oz. Height: 21"
Son of
Matthew Waskahat
& Nicole Scott



**Braylee James
Lesyk**
Date of Birth:
May 12, 2009
Weight: 6 lbs. 7 oz. Height: 21"
Son of
Willie Lesyk &
Kelly Elliott



**Pyper Leanne
Fiske**
Date of Birth:
March 31, 2009
Weight: 7 lbs. 14 oz. Height: 21"
Daughter of
Todd & Renée
(Therault) Fiske



**Hailey Rose
Krankowsky**
Date of Birth:
March 11, 2009
Weight: 7 lbs. 7 oz. Height: 22"
Daughter of
Preston Krankowsky &
Cassia Simmons



**Brendan Hunter
Scott**
Date of Birth:
February 24, 2009
Weight: 8 lbs. 9 oz.
Height: 21"
Son of
Glen & Roberta Scott



**Hailey Elizabeth
Danyluk**
Date of Birth:
January 1, 2009
Weight: 7 lbs. 1/2 oz. Height: 22"
Daughter of
Peter Danyluk
& Kristen Plouffe



**Summer Chereth
Huffman**
Date of Birth:
June 29, 2009
Weight: 10 lbs. 3 1/2 oz. Height: 21"
Daughter of
Dustin & Lesley
Huffman



**Brock Ray
Jacula**
Date of Birth:
January 16, 2009
Weight: 6 lbs. 10 oz. Height: 21 1/4"
Son of
Devon Jacula &
Darla Yaremkevich



**Carsten Boh
Gerlack**
Date of Birth:
May 29, 2009
Weight: 7 lbs. 8 oz. Height: 20"
Son of
Dylan & Joanne
(nee Wolanuk) Gerlack



**Riley Kenneth
Bourne**
Date of Birth:
May 16, 2009
Weight: 6 lbs. 11 oz. Height: 20 1/2"
Son of
Ken & Tania
Bourne



**Shyanne Judy
Klatt**
Date of Birth:
May 3, 2009
Weight: 7 lbs. 1 oz. Height: 20"
Daughter of
Darryl W. & Tammy
Klatt



**Brooke Ava
Povaschuk**
Date of Birth:
October 12, 2009
Weight: 7 lbs. 13 oz. Height: 49 cm
Daughter of
Clinton & Jamie
Povaschuk

Precious one, so small, so sweet,
Dancing in on angel feet,
Straight from Heaven's brightest star!
What a miracle you are!



Moms and tots came on stage to share the best-ever news of Jesus' birth.

Baptists trim tree

(Continued from Front Page)

Next came a group with their teacher, who read the story of the star and placed the star on the tree, before digging through the ornament box looking for ornaments that would represent gold, frankincense and myrrh.

They left another mess

for the hapless janitor. "You'd think they were born in a barn," he complained.

"Jesus was born in a barn and He turned out OK," commented a young man who wandered in, noting that he could not understand "why anyone who works for God isn't happy."

"I do love this place," the janitor conceded, and offered to explain the meaning of "our tremendous love tree." They wandered off as the congregation sang "Silent Night."

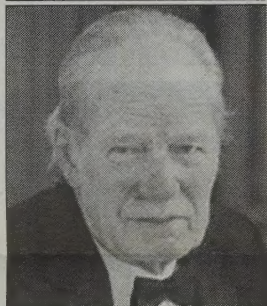
The teens spoke of the tree and its lights. "Jesus is the light of the world, and we are the lights of the world, we can share the story as we go forth and shine," they declared, singing "Light of the World."

The adults added a somber note, recalling that Jesus went from the manger to the cross, and added a cross and nails to the tree's decorations. The cross, however, was not the end. There was "so much more" to the story. "His 33 years on earth didn't end at the grave. He gave us our marching orders, to go and spread the word."

"It's almost Christmas eve," the janitor said. "I can turn off the lights and go home." But he couldn't leave yet. The kid brought a heart to add to the tree, and said, "I've realized I'm a sinner and need forgiveness. The heart shows that I love Jesus." The two depart together, now friends and fellow travelers on life's journey.

OBITUARY

PEIRSON, Herman Diedrich



Herman Peirson of Elk Point, Alberta passed away on December 20, 2009 at the age of 75 years.

Herman is survived by his daughter, Terry (Richard) Dahlstrom; his son, Brad (Julie); his stepsons, Rick (Arlin) Ostensoe, Terry (Ruby) Ostensoe and Brad Ostensoe. Herman is also survived by numerous grandchildren, brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Service will be held at Connelly-McKinley Funeral Home, 4820 Meridian Street, Edmonton on Tuesday, December 29, 2009 at 1:00 pm. Donations may be sent to the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation, 1502 College Plaza, 8215-112 Street, Edmonton, AB T6G 2C8.

Connelly-McKinley Funeral Home, Sherwood Park - Millwoods Chapel 780-468-2222.

THANK YOU

PINDER

The family of Grace Pinder would like to extend heartfelt appreciation for the cards, flowers and expressions of sympathy shown to us during the illness and passing of Grace Pinder. Thank you:

- to the staff of Heritage Lodge for their care and love;
- to Dr. Ramful and staff of the Elk Point Hospital for Mom's care.
- to Ken & Florence's friends for providing meals for those gathered at their home;
- to Rev. Lambert and the choir for the beautiful service;
- to the Senior's Centre Ladies for the delicious lunch;
- to Yewchin's Funeral Chapel for their support and efficient service.

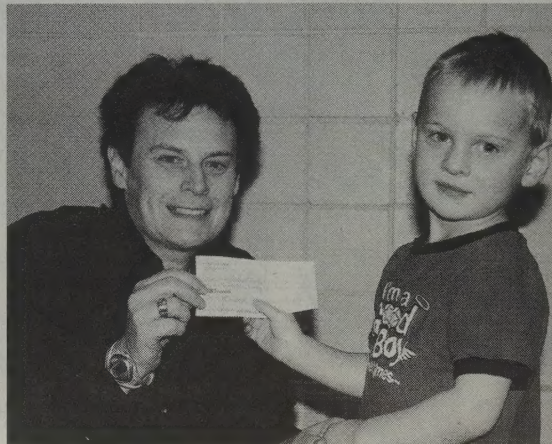


Several Sunday school classes combined their talents to sing "Joy to the World" at the Baptist Church concert on Sunday, Dec. 20.

Big win

Christmas came a few days early for Teresa Boratyne, when little Sam Rogal (right) drew her name on Dec. 11 for the \$1,000 prize in the Elk Point Ukrainian Dance Club cash lottery. Second prize and \$750 went to Tom Sokoloski, \$500 third prize to Doris Osinchuk and \$250 fourth prize to Paige and Sam Henderson.

Vicki Brooker photo



Malanka times two for Ukrainian dance groups

BY VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

All the excitement that surrounds the Ukrainian New Year Malanka celebrations has been doubled for two groups from the Elk Point Ukrainian Dance Club. In addition to the local celebration, they have been invited to perform at "Malanka in the Mountains" at Jasper Park Lodge on January 8 - 10.

This gala winter weekend also includes performances by Edmonton's Vohon Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Ukrainian food, children's activities and a visit from St. Nicholas.

Metelytsia's dance

instructor for the past two years, Debbie Kachmar-Potter, is a member of the Vohon Ensemble, and was invited to bring along some of her students to perform at the prestigious event. Dancers Leigha Bishop, Kira Brunner, Taylor Cochrane, Elizabeth Orr, Bryce Osinchuk, Jayden Plaska, Savannah Plaska, Jesse Theriault and Ashley Wozniak have been chosen for the performance.

Elk Point Ukrainian Dance Club has been in existence for over 30 years, according to one of the dancer's parents, Barry Brunner. "During that time, they have actively partici-

pated in the art and culture of Elk Point. Approximately 25 dancers from age four to adult are in the club each year, and it is not unusual for the parents of dancers to have been dancers themselves." Every year, the group hosts a Malanka and a spring concert, he notes, and performs at Canada Day and in seniors' lodges. They also take part in competitions where they have achieved a high standard of excellence.

This year, the Elk Point Malanka will take place at the Allied Arts Centre for the first time, and is slated for Saturday, Jan. 16.

CHURCH SERVICES

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Pastor Jason Goulet
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Sunday School - 11:15 a.m.
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www.elkpointbaptistchurch.org

St. Vladimirs' Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Elk Point

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Threats lead to charges

By Cst. JOHN SPAANS
Elk Point RCMP

On Dec. 18, Elk Point RCMP received a 911 call about a male threatening to stab people at a residence in Frog Lake. The suspect male was grossly intoxicated when the threats were made and drove away from the house when police were contacted. Prior to leaving the residence, the suspect told witnesses that he would provoke the police into shooting him. RCMP members attended the scene and located the suspect's vehicle abandoned; the male had run into the woods. Members searched the area and located the suspect. The suspect attempted to run away but was caught after a foot chase without further incident. The 34-year-old Frog Lake resident has been charged with multiple criminal offenses and will appear in St. Paul Provincial Court.

Theft and vandalism to vehicle

During the early evening of Dec. 18, Elk Point RCMP responded to a complaint of a vehicle being vandalized in Elk Point. The complainant's vehicle was parked in front of their residence when suspects stripped the vehicle of its tires, rims, headlights and stereo. A short time later, the complainant saw the suspects return to the vehicle in an apparent attempt to take the vehicle. The complainant chased the suspects away. The suspects were driving what is believed to be a black Chevrolet Monte Carlo with tinted windows. Investigation into this matter is ongoing and the RCMP is seeking the assistance of anyone who may have information relating to this matter.

Theft of motor vehicle

On Dec. 19 at approximately 3 a.m., Elk Point RCMP received a complaint of a stolen vehicle in Fishing Lake. The 1989 GMC Jimmy was taken from the complainant's yard some time during the night. Patrols were made for the stolen vehicle but all attempts to locate it were unsuccessful. Later in the morning, at 9 a.m., the stolen vehicle was located abandoned at an oil lease site in Frog Lake. The vehicle was damaged and

appeared to have been driven very aggressively by the suspects. Suspects have been identified and investigation is ongoing.

Theft of car battery

During the night of Dec. 18, Elk Point RCMP responded to a complaint of a theft of a car battery in Frog Lake. The suspect female took the battery because the complainant had property of hers that would not be given back. RCMP located the stolen battery and returned it to its rightful owner along with the other involved property. Charges were not laid in this matter.

Assaults

On Dec. 18 and Dec. 20, Elk Point RCMP received assault complaints involving the same male suspect.

At 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 19, the suspect began arguing with a youth after a joke was taken out of context. The suspect grabbed the victim's throat and tried to choke him. The suspect was very intoxicated at the time of the assault. When police arrived, the suspect was found to have fled the scene. He was not located.

At 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 20, the suspect male engaged in an alcohol fused argument with a female. The suspect pushed the victim to the ground, choked her before punching her multiple times. The victim was able to leave the residence and call police for help. Again, the suspect was fearful of police and fled the area.

Multiple charges are pending against the 39-year-old suspect male and warrants will be issued for his arrest. Neither victim suffered serious injuries as a result of these assaults.

Suspected stolen vehicle

On Dec. 18 at 1 p.m., Elk Point RCMP received a complaint of a suspected stolen vehicle in Frog Lake. The owners of the vehicle returned home to find the vehicle missing and the police were contacted. The vehicle was located a few hours later by members. It was determined that the vehicle had been taken by the owners' adult son, who often uses the vehicle for work. Charges were not laid in this matter.

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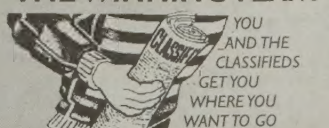
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